

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 6 and 9 are amended. Support for the amendments may be found at least on page 8, lines 27-29 in Applicant's Specification. Claims 1-9 were allowed. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

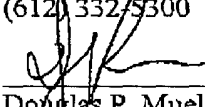
Applicant thanks Examiner for taking the time to conduct a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney on January 8, 2003. During the interview, Examiner agreed to allow the above corrections to dependent claims 6 and 9. Therefore, in view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims remain in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments be entered. Any questions or concerns regarding this communication can be addressed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-9300

Date: January 13, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE